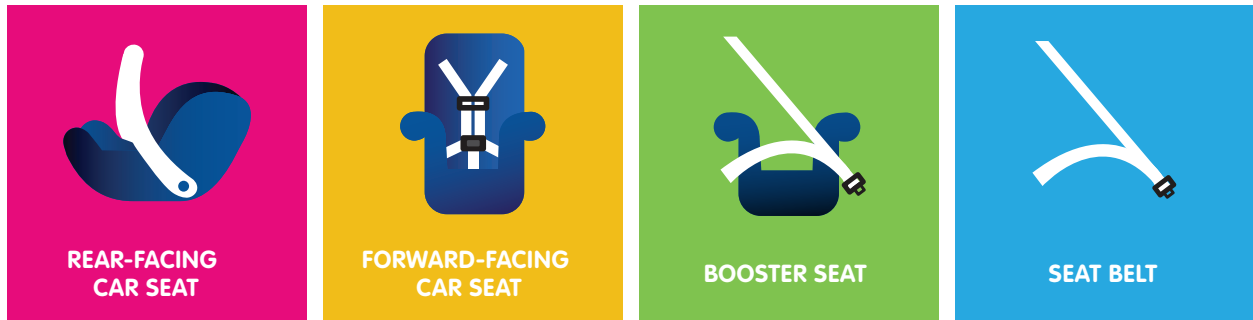


Child Passenger Safety Week 2018



Activities Planner and Toolkit

September 23-29, 2018





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Child Passenger Safety Week 2018

Activities Planner and Toolkit

September 23-29, 2018 has been designated as Child Passenger Safety Week. The basics of child passenger safety—seat selection, direction (orientation), location, installation, and harnessing—are more important than ever. Traffic fatalities nationwide are climbing at an alarming rate, and securing our most precious passengers correctly is the best way to protect them.

This Activities Planner and Toolkit is designed to guide you through the process of planning and implementing activities associated with Child Passenger Safety Week, and give Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs) and safety advocates the tools to plan and support outreach events in their communities. Each day of the week has been designated to focus on a key issue in child passenger safety, and local CPS technicians are encouraged to tailor events to work for their community.

Day	Theme	Page
Monday, September 24	Selection – The Right Seat and Registration Reminders	3
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Wednesday, September 26	Location – Back Seat is Best for Kids Under 13	6
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This Activities Planner and Toolkit provides Child Passenger Safety Technicians with ideas for activities, suggestions for partners in these activities, and information on the resources necessary to achieve a successful local Child Passenger Safety Week in your community. Whether you are a teacher who wants to incorporate safety issues into their curriculum, a community advocate who wants to focus on children's issues, a concerned parent who wants to educate yourself and others about child passenger safety issues, or if you work for a government agency that is responsible for traffic safety or public health, you will find something useful in this Activities Planner and Toolkit.

To successfully plan your media outreach, it would be helpful to send a media advisory the week before (September 17-21, 2018) to give local news organizations time to plan for your events and increase the chances of getting coverage. On Sunday, September 23, take time to plan your social media strategy, and potentially plan posts for the week. On the next page, you'll find a list of free, helpful media resources provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).



NHTSA's Earned Media and Educational Material for Child Passenger Safety Week

NHTSA's Office of Communications and Consumer Information, together with the Ad Council, has created a full suite of media tools to use with traditional and social media channels to raise awareness about child passenger safety.

For Child Passenger Safety Week 2018, the following material is available for use by State highway safety offices, Child Passenger Safety Technicians, and injury prevention professionals to get the word out in their communities about the importance of child passenger safety, as well as their planned activities for the week. All material is available in English and Spanish at:

www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/child-safety/child-passenger-safety-week

- Proclamation
- Proclamation Letter
- Fact Sheet
- Additional Statistics
- Media Advisory
- Op Ed
- Press Release – Seat Check Event
- Press Release – Pre-Seat Check Event
- Press Release – No Seat Check
- Social Media Messaging
 - Join our NHTSA Twitter Chat on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, from 3–4 p.m. ET @NHTSAgov
 - Hashtag for the week: #therightseat
- Social Media Graphics and Videos
- Advertising Material – TV, radio, print, online banner ads, outdoor (billboards and bus shelters)
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and Car Seat Installation Videos
- Infographics and Educational Handouts

General CPS Material:

- NHTSA's Car Seat Recommendations
(www.nhtsa.gov/document/car-seat-recommendations-children-age-size)
- KEEPING KIDS SAFE – A parent's guide to protecting children in and around cars
(www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/13237-parents_guide_playing_it_safe_tagged_0.pdf)
- Car Seat and Booster Seat Installation Checklist
(1 and 2: www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/sites/tsm.nhtsa.dot.gov/files/campaign_media/child_car_safety/car_seat_safety/flyers/11131a-car20seat20install20checklist_060116_v3.zip)
- A Pregnant Woman's Guide to Buckling Up
(www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/pregnant-seat-belt-use.pdf)
- Car Seat Safety for Parents and Caregivers – National Child Passenger Safety Board
(www.cpsboard.org/car-seat-safety/)
- Ultimate Car Seat Guide – an online resource from Safe Kids Worldwide
(www.ultimatecarseatguide.com)
- NHTSA Image Library – CPS images free of charge
(<https://one.nhtsa.gov/nhtsa/ImageLibrary/index.cfm>)



Monday, September 24 – Focus on SELECTION

What: Making sure the car seat, booster seat, or seat belt is in good condition (has not been in a crash, is not expired or recalled, no labels missing) and appropriate for the child's age, height, weight, and developmental level.

Why: Car seats and booster seats are the basic protection systems for passengers who are too small to get the full safety benefits from adult seat belts. The goal of car seats is to provide small children with the same protection, or better, that adults obtain from seat belts and other safety equipment built into a vehicle. They are designed to keep children within the vehicle and close to their original seating position, to prevent contact with harmful interior surfaces or other occupants, and to provide “ride-down” by gradually decelerating the child as the vehicle deforms and absorbs energy from crash forces. For this to work properly, the right seat must be selected for the child's height, weight, and developmental levels.

Activity Planner: The Right Seat and Registration Reminder Events

- Hold a selection “open house” event at a local retailer that sells car seats. Display the different seats available and demonstrate best practices for selection criteria with several dolls (or kids!). Talk to parents and caregivers about the importance of not moving on to the ‘next’ seat too soon.
- Be sure to emphasize the importance of registering car seats.
 - Registering your seat ensures that you'll get any recall information in a timely manner from the manufacturer. Register by:
 - ◆ Going online directly with the manufacturer or by filling out and returning the card that comes with your seat;
 - Visit NHTSA's website at www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#registration
 - Consider having a tablet available to help parents register their car seats at the event; or
 - ◆ Mailing in a hard copy of the NHTSA Car Seat Registration form.
 - If your seat is recalled, make sure to take the appropriate action steps as identified by the manufacturer to remedy the issue. This could be replacing a simple part, or replacing the entire seat.

Tools

- NHTSA's Generic Car Seat Registration Form (www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/register/childseat/csregfrm.pdf)
- Used Car Seat Safety Checklist (www.nhtsa.gov/used-car-seat-safety-checklist)
- Using a Car Seat After a Crash (www.nhtsa.gov/car-seats-and-booster-seats/car-seat-use-after-crash)

Potential Partners

- Local retailers who sell baby and children's items (like car seats)
- Law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services organizations
- Healthcare organizations and healthcare professionals (nurses, physicians, pediatricians)
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pToolCode=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions (Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)





Tuesday, September 25 – Focus on DIRECTION

What: Facing the car seat in the correct direction for the age, height, weight, and developmental level of the child.

Why: Many children are advanced to the next seat stage before they are truly ready, which puts them at greater risk for injury in a crash. NHTSA suggests that children should ride rear-facing to the upper limits of their seats, and convertible seats with higher rear-facing weight and height limits allow many children to ride rear-facing well past the age of 2. Children are also being moved prematurely from harnessed car seats into booster seats, as well as from booster seats into adult seat belts, which puts them at greater risk for injury if the seat belt does not fit them correctly.

Activity Planner: Extended Rear-Facing Myth-Busting Events

- Consider having a car seat ‘myth busting’ session at a community center or local children’s event. Present common myths about overall car seat use, rear-facing car seat use, booster seats, and correct seat belt use. Common myths:
 - “Turning a 1-year-old forward-facing is a rite of passage; my pediatrician said it’s fine.”
 - “Rear-facing children who have their feet against the vehicle seat are uncomfortable and could be injured in a crash.”
 - “Booster seats don’t do anything; you don’t need them.”
- Take questions from participants to make sure you’re addressing concerns in your community. You may not be aware of some of the barriers to correct car seat and seat belt use that people have.
- Use videos found at www.youtube.com/user/cpsboard to give visual support of the concepts.

Tools

- National CPS Board Rear-Facing Quoteables
(<http://cpsboard.org/cps/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Rear-Facing-Quotables.pdf>)
- Safe Kids Car Seat Safety Tips
(www.safekids.org/tip/car-seat-safety-tips-pdf)

Potential Partners

- Community centers and local library event spaces
- Law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services organizations
- Healthcare organizations and healthcare professionals (nurses, physicians, pediatricians)
- Injury prevention and public health organizations
- Childcare providers and local Head Start organizations
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pToolCode=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)



Wednesday, September 26 – Focus on LOCATION

What: Placing the car seat or booster seat in an appropriate location in the vehicle.

Why: For all children under the age of 13, the back seat is the safest place for them to ride. They are better protected from head-on collisions, which constitute about 60 percent of all crashes. In addition, they are not at risk for being injured by the passenger air bag, which is designed for adult protection in conjunction with a seat belt. Familiarize yourself with the location of the air bags in your vehicle, with the help of your vehicle owner's manual. A rear-facing car seat should NEVER be placed in front of an active air bag. When considering the best location for your child's car seat, you should also consider the needs of other passengers who ride in the vehicle and the seating position that will provide an optimal installation for your child's car seat. The middle seat in the back is often referred to as the 'best' seat for car seats because of the protection from side impact crashes, but any back seat position is a preferred location to install car seats. Also consider the needs of your family; for example, if you often park on a busy street, place your child's car seat on the curb side as opposed to the street side for optimal protection for you and your child when entering and exiting the vehicle.

Activity Planner: Back Seat Is Best for Kids Under 13

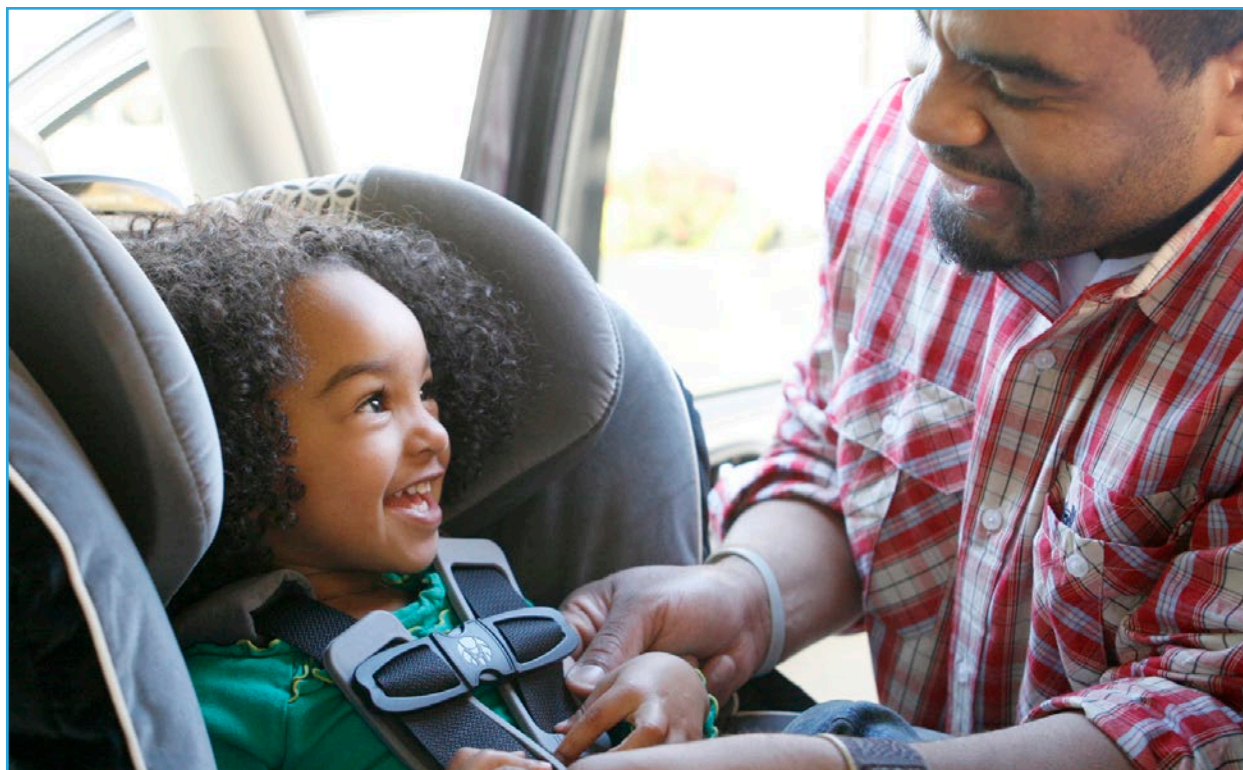
- Hold an educational "open house" event at a local car dealership that is willing to provide a few new vehicles to use for demonstration purposes. Or, choose another location that is popular with parents and children and arrange for a variety of vehicles to be present for demonstrations.
 - Use brightly colored flags or stickers to denote the location of air bags present in the front passenger compartment to demonstrate why kids under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat based on risks from the air bag.
 - Use dolls or child volunteers to position kids in various seating positions and discuss belt fit, and how it varies based on position in the vehicle.
 - Create a 'Safe Seat Tetris' game – create a few scenarios where parents and caregivers have to decide where to place everyone in the vehicle, so every occupant's protection is optimized.
 - ◆ Everyone should have upper body protection.
 - ◆ Never put a rear-facing seat in front of an active air bag.

Tools

- NHTSA's *Top 5 Things* Seat Belt handout (www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts#issue-adults)
- Seat belt myths quiz (www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts#myths)

Potential Partners

- Local auto dealerships who have an interest in safety and a variety of vehicles to use for demonstrations
- Law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services organizations
- Healthcare organizations and healthcare professionals (nurses, physicians, pediatricians)
- Injury prevention and public health organizations
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pToolCode=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)



Thursday, September 27 – Focus on INSTALLATION

What: Installing the car seat or booster seat in the vehicle correctly.

Why: It is estimated that 46 percent of car seats on America's roads are installed incorrectly (NCRUSS, 2015). A car seat that is incorrectly installed will not provide optimal protection in a crash situation, and may put your child's safety at risk. While great strides have been made in reducing child fatalities and injuries since the 1970s, over half of children killed in crashes are either improperly restrained or completely unrestrained (FARS, 2015). Car seats can be installed with either the seat belt or the lower anchors, and forward-facing seats should always utilize the tether. Seat belts in vehicles made after model year 1996 will have a locking mechanism, which enables the seat belt to be locked to install car seats. This is most often achieved by a locking latchplate or switching the retractor into locking mode in order to lock the seat belt. Lower anchors are standard in vehicles manufactured after 2002, and are generally U-shaped metal anchors that are located in the bight (crack) of the vehicle seat. Current car seats come equipped with lower anchor webbing and attachments, which when threaded through the correct belt path and securely fastened onto the anchors, create a secure installation for that car seat. While the systems are different, they are equally safe, and it's recommended to use the seat belt or lower anchors – but NOT both. Most car seats have not been tested with both systems used together, so please consult both the vehicle owner's manual and car seat instructions for help. Tether non-use in forward-facing car seat installation is one of the most common installation errors, yet correct use can significantly decrease the risk of head injuries in a crash.

Activity Planner: Lower Anchors and Seat Belts with Tether Emphasis

- Speak at a local community group meeting that has an interest in child passenger safety, like a local parent group, PTA, or faith-based group. Focus on the basics of child passenger safety:
 - Bring special attention to installation, with or without having an actual inspection event.
 - A prop vehicle seat or “dial-a-belt” can be used to demonstrate installation in an educational setting.



- Show installation using a seat belt, as well as lower anchors:
 - ◆ Highlight the importance of locking the seat belt for use with car seats.
 - ◆ Show both rear-facing and forward-facing installations.
 - ◆ Sell the tether for forward-facing seats, when installing with the seat belt or lower anchors. Explain that the tether is present but not used for most rear-facing seats, and describe the benefits of its use for forward-facing seats.
- Explain the critical importance of tether use for forward-facing car seat installation, utilizing pictures and video examples.
- Show a variety of vehicles with completely different lower anchor and tether locations, and challenge consumers to find the anchors without access to the owner's manual.
- Show the variety of markings to indicate lower anchor and tether locations, seat bight positionings, and vehicle seat configurations that can make lower anchor use challenging.

Tools

- NHTSA Car Seat Installation Videos
(View here: www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#installation-help-instructions)
- NHTSA “What is a Tether and Why is it Important?” and “How to Use a Car Seat Tether” handouts
(www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#installation-help-parts-tips)

Potential Partners

- Local libraries and community organizations, including PTAs and Head Start centers
- Local retailers who sell baby and children's items (like car seats)
- Healthcare organizations and healthcare professionals (nurses, physicians, pediatricians)
- Injury prevention and public health organizations
- State highway safety offices
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pToolCode=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)



Friday, September 28 – Focus on HARNESSING

What: Securing the child properly in the car seat, booster seat, or seat belt.

Why: Correct harnessing or seat belt fit ensures your child is securely positioned in a car seat, booster seat, or vehicle seat, and is able to take advantage of the crash protection that the harness or belt provides. The harness holds the child down low in the car seat so he/she does not slide up and out of the car seat in a crash. Incorrect harnessing—often a loose harness or a retainer clip that is too low—is an extremely common misuse. Correct seat belt fit, for children in boosters or transitioning out of boosters, is very important and also a common error.

Activity Planner: Pinch Test and Seat Belt Fit

- **Seat Belt Fit:** Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For many children, this will usually be when they are about 4'9" tall and between 10 and 12 years old. For a seat belt to fit properly, the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest, and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.
- **Correct Car Seat Harnessing:** If a child is riding rear-facing, the harness straps should originate AT OR BELOW the child's shoulders. If a child is riding forward-facing, the harness straps should originate AT OR ABOVE the child's shoulders. To test for tightness, teach parents and caregivers about the 'pinch test.'
 - Buckle the harness and secure the chest clip, and then pull the harness adjuster to tighten the harness. Pinch the harness webbing at the child's shoulder vertically between your thumb and forefinger. If you are able to pinch webbing between your fingers, the harness is not tight enough. It should be snug but not tight enough to injure the child's skin. If the harness is tight enough, your fingers should slide easily off of the webbing when pinched.
- Consider highlighting correct harnessing at a planned inspection event; correct harnessing is difficult to demonstrate effectively without a child in a vehicle seat.

Tools

- NHTSA "How to Use a Car Seat Harness" handout
(www.nhtsa.gov/car-seats-and-booster-seats/car-seat-installation-tips)

Potential Partners

- Local libraries and community organizations
- Local retailers who sell baby and children's items (like car seats)
- Healthcare organizations and healthcare professionals (nurses, physicians, pediatricians)
- Injury prevention and public health organizations
- State highway safety offices
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pToolCode=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)



Saturday, September 29 – National Seat Check Saturday

Activities

- Attend or plan community-level car seat check events. Distribute information and installation tips on correctly using car seats to all those conducting and participating in the event.
 - Remember that only currently certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs) should be performing car seat inspections with parents and caregivers. If you are not a currently certified CPST, work with a local Safe Kids coalition or other local CPSTs to assist them and provide support for their events.
- Ask child care providers, preschools, and Head Start facilities to distribute information to parents and caregivers about the importance of using car seats correctly, available local resources for free or discounted car seats, and information about where to have their seat checked locally.



Potential Partners

- Head Start programs
- Local childcare facilities
- Retail stores that sell children's items
- Community organizations that serve children and families
- Local faith-based organizations
- Local law enforcement departments, fire departments, emergency medical services agencies, public health agencies, or healthcare organizations that have trained CPSTs on staff
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapapps/dbzap/bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?pTool-Code=TAB9&pCategory1=TAB9_CERTSEARCH&Webid=SAFEKIDSCERTSQL)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)

Resources

- Traffic Safety Marketing (NHTSA) – Child Passenger Safety Week 2018
(www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/child-safety/child-passenger-safety-week)
- Parents and Caregivers
(www.nhtsa.gov/parents-and-caregivers)
- Safe Kids Generic CPS Check Form
(http://cert.safekids.org/sites/default/files/2013_checklist_-_generic.pdf)
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians
(Find a Tech: <http://cert.safekids.org/get-car-seat-checked>)
- Local Safe Kids Coalitions
(Find a Coalition: www.safekids.org/safe-kids-coalitions-united-states)
- NHTSA Car Seat Inspection Station Locator
(www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#installation-help-inspection)



Car Seat Check Event Guidelines

Recommended tools:

- Manufacturer's instructions for every car seat (hard copy, or online access to a copy)
- Clipboards
- Pens/pencils
- Current recall list(s)
- Checklists (Safe Kids check form if affiliated with a Safe Kids coalition) or any generic check form your organization uses, such as this (download)
- Traffic cones
- Car seat check event signs
- Tape/rope to designate "safe" area
- Car seats for loan or giveaway (convertible and booster seats)
- Pool noodles and duct tape (used to position recline angle on some seats)
- Locking clips
- Dolls and receiving blankets for harness demonstrations
- Rubber gloves
- Hand sanitizer
- Educational material

Directions for setting up your event:

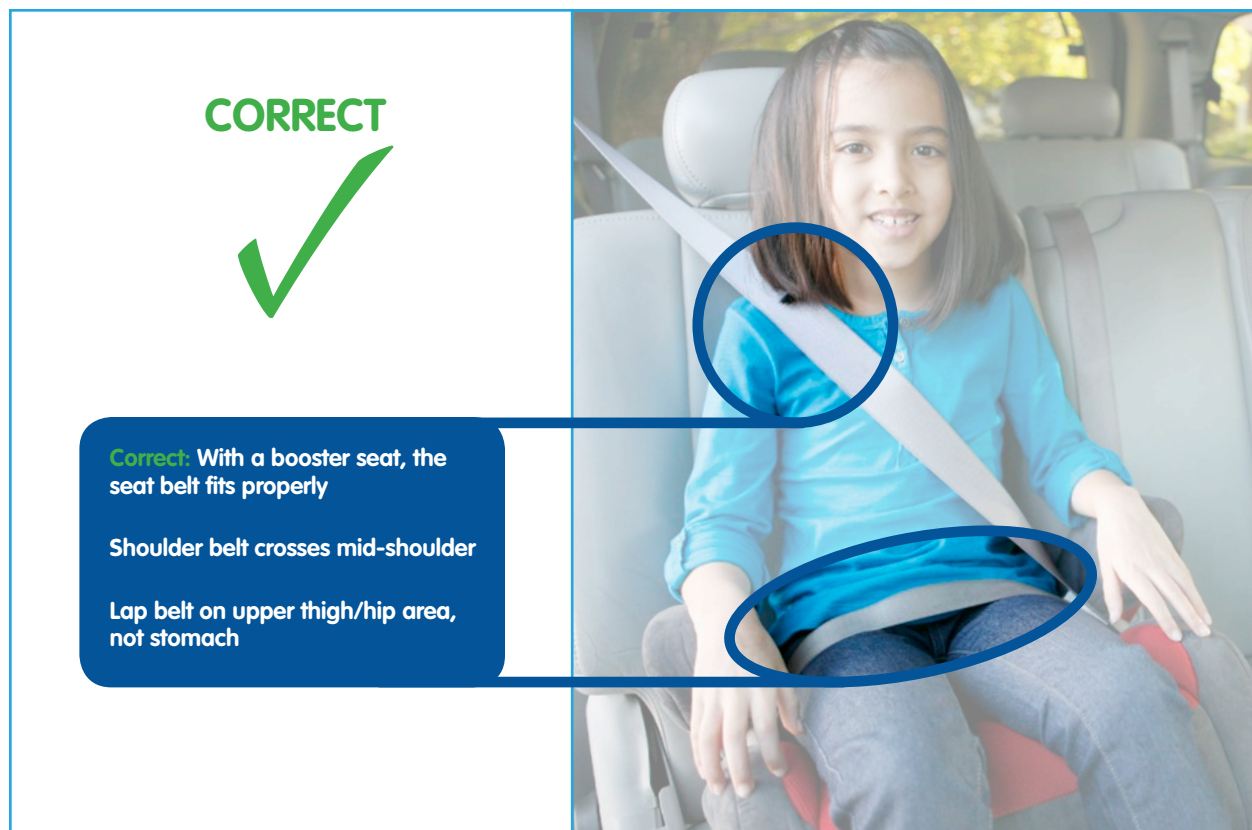
- Select a location. Suggested locations include large parking lots for churches, supermarkets, retail stores, ball fields, retail stores that sell baby/children's items, fire stations, auto dealerships, and indoor facilities in case of inclement weather.
- Ask for permission to use parking lots, and potentially partner with the organization to create a safe location for your check event.
- Rope or tape off an area to create a contained safe zone.
- Set up signs leading to the check event area.
- Use traffic cones to funnel traffic into appropriate 'lanes' and out of the safe zone.
- Have a traffic flow coordinator to move vehicles into safe positions. One person can be assigned to the entrance and another to the exit.
- Assign a team of two currently certified CPSTs, if possible, to check the car seat installation in each vehicle, and then educate the parent or guardian how to correctly install the car seat. This team will also be responsible for guiding the vehicle into a designated safe spot and to the exit coordinator at the appropriate time.

Tips to remember:

- Maintain control of the vehicle's occupants, especially small children. Do not allow them to wander away from the vehicle or the driver/parent or caregiver.
- Set up signs directing people to the seat check, not only at the entrance, but also at busy intersections in the area.
- Guide vehicles into, through, and out of the safe area.
- It's better to have drivers wait in line than to attempt to conduct the inspection in an unsafe area.



- Ask drivers to bring the manufacturer's instructions for their car seat.
- Ask drivers to bring the vehicle owner's manual and read it before they arrive or while waiting.
- Attempt to find a resource or secure funding to provide free car seats that may be offered to families who do not have the resources to purchase their own. These seats could be temporary loaners for parents who can access a seat later. Also aim to have children leave the event safer than when they arrived.
- If the location established for the car seat check is in the parking lot of a store that sells car seats, drivers can be directed to the store to replace a seat that doesn't fit, is expired, or is unsafe. Do not recommend a particular brand, however.
- If a car seat is on the recall list and cannot be repaired, or if the seat has visible damage, ask that the driver/parent or caregiver leave the 'unsafe' seat at the seat check. Make sure you either destroy the seat or mark it carefully for display/teaching purposes.
- Give the driver a copy of NHTSA's Car Seat Recommendations that provides the most appropriate information for fitting a car seat into a vehicle. It is also helpful to include information about your State's child passenger safety laws.
- In case you find a vehicle or car seat that is dirty or wet, have rubber gloves available for the CPSTs.
- When possible, make this a multi-agency event with representation from all involved law enforcement and civilian agencies in the area.
- Always make sure the driver/parent or caregiver is the last person to install the car seat. Check for correctness. The CPS technician's job is to demonstrate and teach – not to install the seat for them. Help the driver/parent or caregiver learn the skills they need in order to install the car seat correctly every time.





Five-Minute Car Seat Checkup

- Using a car seat correctly makes a big difference in its efficacy in a crash. To make your child as safe as possible, take a minute to check that you are using your child's car seat correctly.
 - Do you have the instruction manual?
 - ◆ Follow it and keep it with the seat for use as your child grows older.
 - ◆ Use your vehicle owner's manual for instructions on proper installation with lower anchors or the vehicle seat belt.
 - Is your child facing the right way for his/her age, weight, and height?
 - ◆ If you have a rear-facing-only seat for infants, it should always be rear-facing and installed in the back seat.
 - ◆ Children should be rear-facing until at least 1 year, and as long as possible after that as allowed by the seat manufacturer. Convertible seats can be rear-facing or forward-facing, and children should ride rear-facing until they reach the maximum rear-facing weight and height limits of that seat.
 - Is your child in the correct location in the car?
 - ◆ Children under the age of 13 should always ride in the back seat. A rear-facing car seat should NEVER be placed in the front passenger seat in the path of the active passenger air bag.
 - Is your vehicle seat belt or lower anchors and tether pulled tight?
 - ◆ The seat belt or the lower anchors must go in the correct, marked path to hold the car seat in place.
 - ◆ A convertible car seat can be used both forward-facing and rear-facing, and has a different belt path for each direction.
 - ◆ The tether must be used for forward-facing car seat installations, in conjunction with the seat belt or the lower anchors.
 - Is the harness snug? Does it stay on the child's shoulders?
 - ◆ The harness should originate at or below the child's shoulders for a rear-facing seat, and should originate at or above a child's shoulders for a forward-facing seat.
 - ◆ The harness retainer clip should always be at the armpit level.
 - ◆ The harness webbing should pass the 'pinch' test; when pinched vertically, you should not be able to grab webbing at the shoulders, and your fingers should slide off easily. The harness should be snug, but not uncomfortable for the child.
 - Does your child use a booster seat if he/she has outgrown a convertible seat?
 - ◆ A booster seat positions your child so the seat belt protects your child as it does adults, until he/she is big enough to fit in the seat belt alone.
 - ◆ You must use a high-back booster if the vehicle seating position has a very low seat back or does not feature a head restraint.
 - ◆ Booster seats should only be used with lap and shoulder seat belts; never use a booster seat with a lap belt only.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the car seat manufacturer first or get one-on-one help at a NHTSA Inspection Station with a certified CPST. Locate an inspection station near you at www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#installation-help-inspection. Ask drivers to bring the manufacturer's instructions for their car seat.



Importance of Tether Use

What is a tether?

A tether connects the top of a forward-facing car seat to the vehicle, used to secure a forward-facing car seat, and limit forward head movement in a crash.

The tether is located on the top rear of convertible, combination, and all-in-one car seats. It's adjustable and has a hook and strap that connects to one of your vehicle's tether anchors. Most rear-facing car seats in the United States do not use a tether for installation. However, installations vary from model to model, so you must review your particular car seat's instructions and your vehicle owner's manual carefully.



Why is it important?

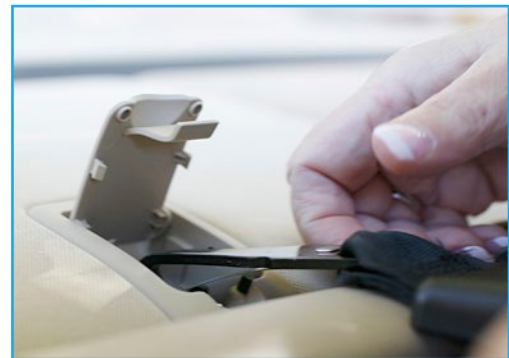
A tether prevents serious head and neck injury by securing the top of the car seat and minimizing forward head movement in a crash.

According to a 2017 study conducted by Safe Kids Worldwide, 64% of parents were not using a tether on their child's forward-facing car seat. The use of a tether reduces forward movement and rotation of the seat, and it can act to stabilize the seat and limit head movement of the child.

How do I use it?

To provide optimum protection, a tether must be tightened and attached properly; you can find tether anchor locations in your vehicle owner's manual, and tether installation instructions in your car seat manual.

Follow your car seat manufacturer's instructions regarding when and how to use the tether for your particular seat. NHTSA recommends always using a tether with a forward-facing car seat—installed with your vehicle's seat belt OR the lower anchors—as long as it is permitted by both the car seat and vehicle manufacturers.



IMPORTANT: Both installation methods are designed to work with the tether to achieve the highest level of safety for child passengers restrained in forward-facing car seats. So don't forget that important component of your forward-facing installation!

- Check out NHTSA's educational handouts – “What is a Tether and Why is it Important?” and “How to Use a Car Seat Tether” (www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#installation-help-parts-tips)

How To Use a Car Seat Harness



What Is a Harness?

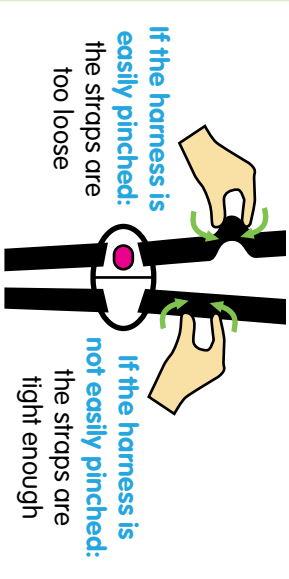
A car seat harness keeps a child properly restrained in the event of a crash and spreads crash forces across the strongest areas of the child's body (hips and chest).

5-point adjustable harness



How Tight Should The Harness Be?

The harness should pass the 'pinch test', when pinching the harness webbing vertically at the shoulder with the thumb and forefinger, your fingers should slide off easily and you should not be able to pinch any webbing between them. The harness should lie flat, and fit snugly (not uncomfortable) at the child's shoulders and hips.

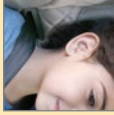


Where Do The Harness Straps Go?



Rear-facing seats

Straps should originate **AT or BELOW** the child's shoulders



Forward-facing seats

Straps should originate **AT or ABOVE** the child's shoulders



Where Does the Chest Clip Go?

The chest clip should be placed at the child's armpit level.



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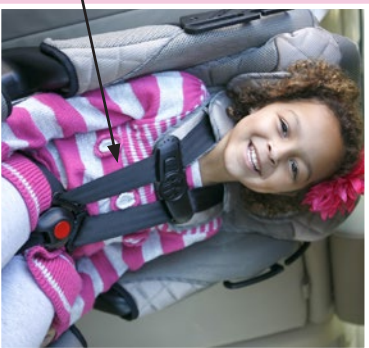
Cómo Usar el Arnés del Car Seat



¿Qué es un arnés?

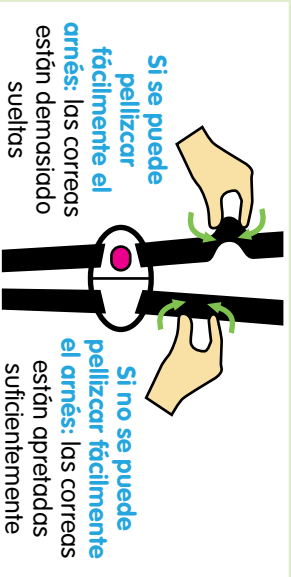
El arnés del car seat mantiene al niño correctamente sujetado en caso de choque y distribuye las fuerzas del choque entre las áreas más fuertes del cuerpo del niño (las caderas y el pecho).

Arnés ajustable de 5 puntos

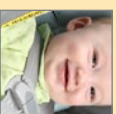


¿Qué Tan Apretado Debe Ser el Arnés?

El arnés debe pasar 'la prueba del pellizco': al pellizcar verticalmente el tejido del arnés en el hombro con el pulgar y el índice, los dedos deben deslizarse fácilmente y usted no deba ser capaz de pellizcar cualquier tejido entre ellos. El arnés debe estar plano y (quedar) ajustado (no incómodamente) en los hombros y las caderas del niño.

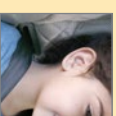


¿Dónde Deben Estar las Correas del Arnés?



Asientos que mira hacia atrás

Las correas deben originarse **EN o POR DEBAJO DE** los hombros del niño



Asientos que mira hacia el frente

Las correas deben originarse **EN o MÁS ARRIBA DE** los hombros del niño



¿Dónde Debe Estar el Broche de Pecho?

El broche de pecho debe estar colocado al nivel de la axila del niño.



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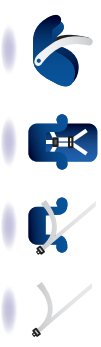


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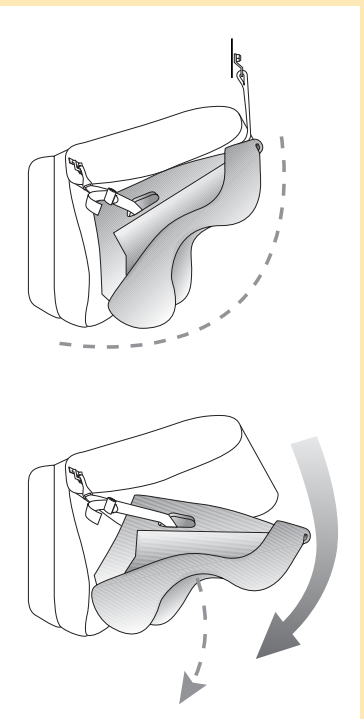
What Is a Tether and Why Is It Important?



What is a tether? A tether connects the top of a forward-facing car seat to the vehicle.

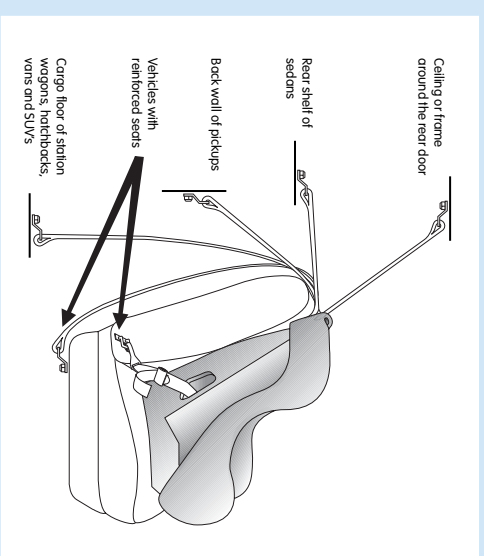
Why is it important? A tether prevents serious head and neck injury by securing the top of the car seat and minimizing forward head movement in a crash.

How do I use it? To provide optimum protection, a tether must be tightened and attached properly; you can find tether anchor locations in your vehicle owner's manual, and tether installation instructions in your car seat manual.



**Collision With
Tether**

**Collision Without
Tether**



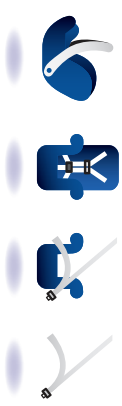
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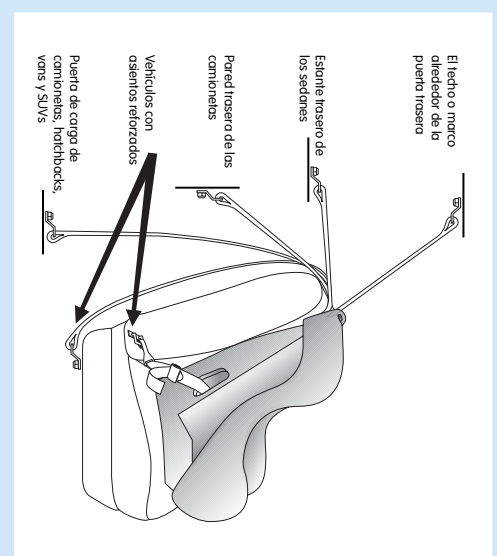
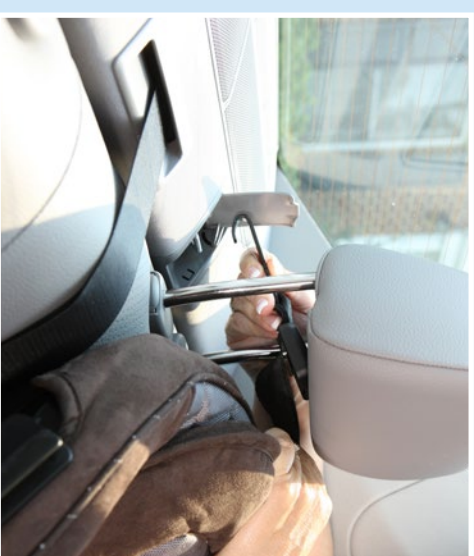
¿Qué Es una Correa de Sujeción y Por Qué Es Importante?



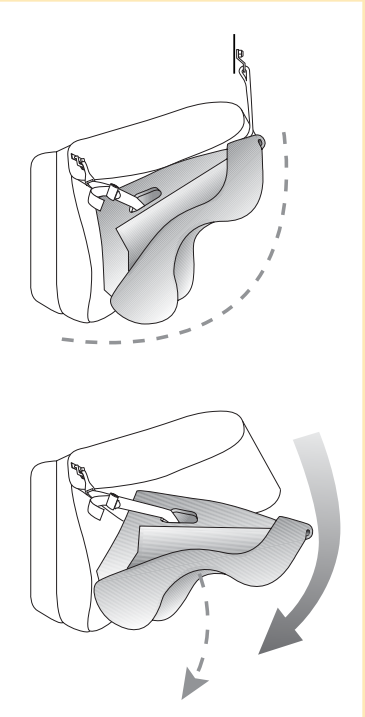
¿Qué es una correa de sujeción? Una correa de sujeción conecta la parte superior del car seat que mira hacia el frente al vehículo.

¿Por qué es importante? Una correa de sujeción evita lesión grave en la cabeza y el cuello por asegurar la parte superior del car seat y minimizar el movimiento de la cabeza hacia adelante en un choque.

¿Cómo se utiliza? Para proporcionar una protección óptima, la correa de sujeción debe ser apretada y fijada correctamente. Puede encontrar las ubicaciones de los puntos de conexión para la correa de sujeción en el manual del propietario del vehículo, y las instrucciones de instalación de la correa de sujeción están en el manual del car seat.



Colisión Con la Correa de Sujeción **Colisión Sin la Correa de Sujeción**



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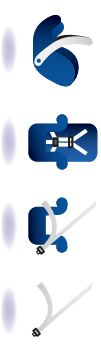
[NHTSA.gov/protected](https://www.nhtsa.gov/protected)



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How To Use a Car Seat Tether



What is a tether?

A tether connects the top of a car seat to the vehicle.

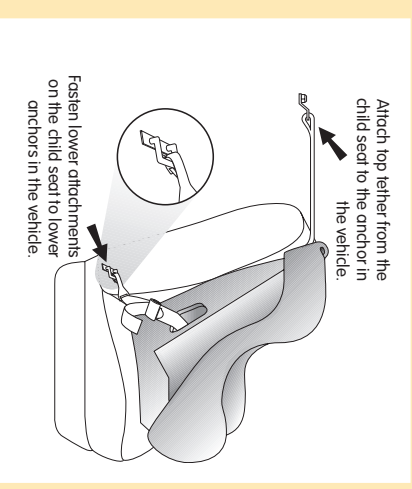
Why is it important?

A tether prevents serious head and neck injury by securing the top of the car seat and minimizing forward head movement in a crash.



Always use a tether for forward-facing car seats.

Infant seats and boosters usually do not have a tether.



The *tether anchor symbol* will show you where the tether can be attached in some vehicles. All passenger vehicles made after 2001 are required to have tether anchors; information can be found in your vehicle owner's manual.



To provide optimum protection, a tether must be attached and tightened properly.



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Cómo Utilizar una Correa de Sujeción del Car Seat



¿Qué es una correa de sujeción?

Una correa de sujeción conecta la parte superior del car seat al vehículo.

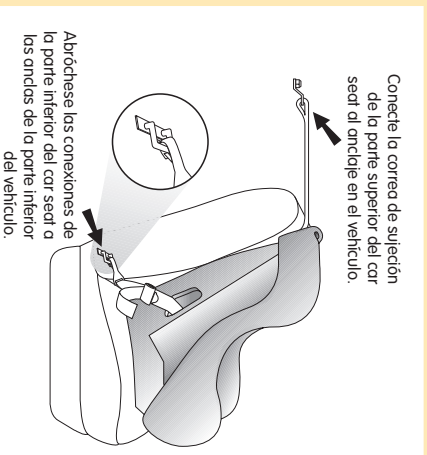
¿Por qué es importante?

Una correa de sujeción evita lesión grave en la cabeza y el cuello por asegurar la parte superior del car seat y minimizar el movimiento de la cabeza hacia adelante en un choque.



Siempre debe usar una correa de sujeción para los car seats que miran hacia el frente.

Los car seats para bebés y los asientos elevados "booster" generalmente no tienen una correa de sujeción.



Abróchese las conexiones de la parte inferior del car seat a las anclas de la parte inferior del vehículo.

El símbolo del punto de conexión para la correa de sujeción del anclaje le mostrará dónde puede conectar la correa de sujeción en algunos vehículos. Todos los vehículos de pasajeros fabricados después de 2001 deben tener puntos de conexión para la correa de sujeción del anclaje; la información está en su manual del propietario del vehículo.



Para proporcionar una protección óptima, la correa de sujeción debe ser apretada y fijada correctamente.



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